

Alumni *Columns*

Magazine Fall 2011
Northwestern State University of Louisiana

Alumni *In the Movies*





Dr. Randall J. Webb, 1965, 1966
President, Northwestern State University

Dear Alumni,

On July 1, I was privileged to be able to celebrate 15 years as president of Northwestern State University. It has been an honor to serve this fine institution and play a role in providing educational opportunities for students.

Any university president inherits a legacy that has to do with the accomplishments of students, alumni and faculty and staff and the work done by administrators, board members and legislators. You stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before you. I have been fortunate to know many of the outstanding people who have served Northwestern over the years and it is humbling to follow in their footsteps.

Northwestern is a different institution than it was in the mid-1990s and the changes made over the years have helped the university grow.

More private scholarships for students and support for faculty are available due to the generosity of alumni and friends of Northwestern. Renovation has brought new life to Russell Hall, Morrison Hall, Williamson Hall and the Family and Consumer Sciences Building. The Intramural Building is now the Wellness, Recreation and Activity Center, which is heavily used by students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends of NSU. A new Student Support Center will open in January and we soon hope to start a renovation project on East Caspari Hall. Northwestern also replaced outdated residence halls with University Place Phase I and II.

Northwestern has instituted admissions standards for the first time, helping us attract better students. The average ACT score of incoming freshmen at NSU exceed the state and national average. Retention rates have increased. The university set records for the number of graduates in a calendar year in 2010 (1,955) and for the number of graduates in an academic year in 2010-11 (2,043).

E-learning has become increasingly important for Northwestern. The university has 28 degree programs online, more than any other public college or university in the state. More than half of the students at NSU take an online class each semester.

Through all the changes, our faculty and staff have never lost their focus on student success. At Northwestern, we are in the life changing business and we work to be a positive force for change every day.

I am proud to be an alumnus of Northwestern State University. I thank you for your continued support of this special university.

William Drake Owens, 2004, 2005
Director of University Advancement

My fellow Alumni,

By the time this edition of Alumni Columns reaches you, we will be in our final preparations for Homecoming 2011. I hope that many of you are planning to join us for an exciting weekend of activities, reunions and celebration.

We have much to be thankful for at NSU. As you may know, we are now in our final year of our capital campaign, "Excellence: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow." As we near our goal, please know how appreciative the NSU family is to you, our deeply supportive alumni. Your positive response to our campaign will play an invaluable role in ensuring that our alma mater remains a vibrant place of learning and discovery and a resource to the entire northwest Louisiana region. We ask that you continue to do all that you can to support Northwestern, through your gifts, your presence at events or by encouraging prospective student to explore what we have to offer.

NSU has a rich heritage and a vision of excellence. With your assistance we are able to continue to move forward toward a bright future.



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In the Movies

Alumni find different roles in film projects

ver the last several years, Louisiana has gained a reputation as the place to make movies.

Financial incentives, geographic diversity and enthusiastic crews are steadily attracting Hollywood filmmakers to "L.A. South," and more than a few Northwestern alumni are getting in on the action.



Chad Watson (1998) caught the movie bug shortly after Hurricane Katrina forced the filming of "The Guardian" from New Orleans to Shreveport. Since then, he has worked as both extra and/or crew member on films that include "Green Lantern," "Breaking Dawn" and "Playing the Field," rubbing

elbows with Hollywood heavyweights like Nicolas Cage. He also appeared in a Wrangler jeans commercial that features Brett Favre throwing a football around with his buddies.

This past summer, Watson was working as a production assistant for "Leatherface 3D," a remake of the horror classic "Texas Chainsaw Massacre," filmed on location in Mansfield, where he was overseeing the set.

"As a production assistant, you do whatever the production manager tells you to. I love my job," he said. "I



Chad Watson worked long, hot days on the set of "Leatherface 3D" over the summer.

have no problem waking up at 3 a.m. to go to work."

After four weeks on set, he lost 18 pounds, averaged four hours of sleep per night and saw 11 people hacked to pieces.

A Haughton native, Watson, earned a math education degree at NSU and was teaching at North DeSoto High School when he heard about a casting call for extras in "The Guardian." He's been a movie buff all his life, he said.

"I auditioned and waited in a long line," he said. "I was in a scene with Ashton Kutcher that got deleted. Lesson learned: sometimes you put in a 15-hour day for nothing."

But the experience inspired Watson to quit teaching and pursue a full-time career in the industry.

"I kept working as an extra and have been on the crew for two years. You work with some of the same people over and over again," he said. "There is a lot of networking and I've been fortunate to have steady work traveling between New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Shreveport."

His first job on the crew was in filming "Battle: Los Angeles," in which he also appeared as an extra. In addition to working on the crew, he is always looking for parts.

"One benefit of working in Louisiana is getting to know crew members you meet from one project to the next," said Watson. "I've worked with some amazing professionals and it's often sad when it's a wrap."

Watson's project following "Leatherface 3D" was scheduled as "The Paperboy" with Matthew McConaughey, Zac Efron and Tobey Maguire.

"Every actor I know sweats 90 percent of the year worrying about their next job," he said. "Right now I'm taking every movie job I can because I love it. It is a blessing to be able to make movies in my hometown. I do something I love every day of my life and get paid for it."

Blake "Tricky" LeVasseur (2002) puts his artistic skills and technical know-how to use as one who creates sculptures and special effects for films. He can create anything from Styrofoam buildings to realistic

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body parts, as well as orchestrate pyrotechnics, flip cars, and coordinate smoke, fire, wind and rain for specified scenes.

"When you are in special effects, you have to have talents in several different areas...welding, molding, fabrication, even as a seamstress, when you're sewing blood packs into clothing and making fake body parts," he said.



Pyrotechnics coordinated by Blake "Tricky" LeVasseur exploded on set. Below, LeVasseur operates a smoke machine.



"I'm like MacGyver. I have to figure out how to make stunts happen, whether it's flipping a car over or creating an explosion."

As a kid, LeVasseur "was always building things and rigging stuff up." He enrolled at NSU as an art major focused on sculpture but changed to graphic design. He's been working with movies for four years.

Working in the business is "all about who you know," he said. He sent out numerous resumes before getting his first job as a back-up sculptor for "Year One." To that job, he said, he gave 110 percent, earning a position as lead sculptor on another project. He was lead sculptor for "Breaking Dawn," where he created a castle, statues, rock walls and other objects out of Styrofoam that were then painted by artists.

As for special effects, he started out learning how to build and use machines to control smoke, wind, rain and fire.

"You can learn as much as you want as you go

along," he said. "The effects guy gave me a chance and next thing I know I've got a truck and I'm running a crew."

LeVasseur obtained a required explosives license and routinely coordinates gas explosions and other blow-ups.

Working on "The Expendables" offered plenty of opportunities for explosions, flipping cars and pyrotechnics.

"Those are long days, sometimes 12-16 hours, and it's fatiguing. It can be stressful," he said. "It takes a toll on family life."

Creating special effects for one scene in "Battle: Los Angeles" involved hand making and wrapping 90-95 explosives. "It took a lot of man hours. Then they blew up in five seconds."

LeVasseur works mainly in Louisiana, but has worked on some commercials that were filmed out of state. Like Chad Watson, with whom he has worked on previous projects, he was occupied last summer with "Leatherface 3D," a film with no computer-generated special effects.

"It's old school," he said.

Perks of the jobs are rubbing shoulders with stars like Sylvester Stallone, Jessica Biel, Gerard Butler, Stone Cold Steve Austin and Kim Kardashian.

"In special effects, you often work one on one with an actor and you develop a relationship with them," he said. "When you are putting an explosive device on an actor or stuntman's chest, they trust that it was built correctly."

It's a profession he never expected.

"I never would have guessed that Hollywood would come find me," he said.

Kendrick Hudson (2001) is a location manager and an independent producer. He serves as a liaison between property owners and the production crew and has a hand in logistics and security.

"It's a little bit of everything," he said. "I always wanted to be a filmmaker. I studied theatre in college and always had that entertainment bug."

After graduating from NSU with a general studies degree, the Shreveport native followed his dream to Los Angeles, where he worked on films directed by James Cameron and Oliver Stone as well as other projects, running errands and "working my way up the chain."

He has been doing scouting work in Shreveport for about seven years and has worked on "Soul Man," "W," "I Hope They Serve Beer in Hell" and "Trespass."

Working as a freelancer, he's never sure what his next project will be, but said the creative side of his job is his favorite. He plans to continue work in the business and sees himself producing films in the future.

"Finding a location that makes a cut in the movie and knowing I had a part in it. The visibility is the biggest reward."



Hollie E. Townsend (2004) and her husband Tom Townsend II (2004, 2005) have appeared as extras in three movies filmed in Shreveport,

"The Better Man," later renamed "Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins," starring Martin Lawrence; "Major Movie Star" featuring Jessica Simpson and "Butter" with Jennifer Garner.

Townsend earned bachelors degrees in general studies and professional writing at NSU and her husband earned a master's degree in English.

"Filming was great," she said. "My husband and I were cast as extras. We were used in the background. For 'Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins' and 'Major Movie Star,' after we went to casting calls. For 'Butter,' however, the people contacted us. Being on set with the directors and other cast member was an awesome experience. We got to meet Martin Lawrence. That was very cool."

"Other than being in a few plays when I was younger, I have never done anything like the movie work," she said. "It was something I was interested in doing in order to expand my resume, get me noticed by other movie producers, and give me more material to use in my writing. I met nice people on the set -- hard-working people like you and me. It was a great experience, and I have been listening to the news, waiting for an announcement about the next movie. Hopefully, they will call us."

Not all modern filmmakers are enthralled with the glamour of Tinsel Town, however **Hollie Carter** of Atlanta, Ga., (1978) released a documentary last year through her non-profit organization, Peaceful Blue Planet Foundation. Carter, an educator, curriculum writer and environmental educator, directed the documentary "Conejos, Undiscovered Colorado," which focuses on eco-tourism. Its premier in Aspen, Colo., last year was well received.

"The movie encourages people to explore nature and enjoy the land without leaving a footprint," she explained. "When people get out into nature, they care more about it."

The film's host and producer, Chris Collins, a leading member of Peaceful Blue Planet, is featured in exchanges with local residents about Conejos and leads the viewer on a tour of the rugged, scenic area near the New Mexico border. As an educator for the past 19 years, Hollie promotes the film's connection to history, geology and environmental sciences.

Carter studied speech and drama at Northwestern and voices public service announcements for Peaceful Blue Planet. Although she has been involved in the performing arts most of her life the Conejos project was her first

foray into film. Interest in that medium runs in the family, however; both her sons attended film school to learn digital media production, work as professional videographers and were involved with the filming and editing of "Conejos."

"We had a lot of fun filming it," Carter said, describing days in which equipment was hauled to locations via backpack and the occasional packhorse. With a crew of about 10 members – all taking time off from their day jobs – and a budget of \$40,000 collected from donors, shooting was completed in about 10 days.

"Everyone brought forth their expertise in the performing arts, videography, reporting and artistic skills for this documentary and it came together well," she said. "It's been an important project."

An east coast premier of "Conejos, Undiscovered Colorado" was planned for Sept. 2 in Raystown Lake, Penn.

Carter is interested in developing future films that highlight other eco-tour locations and address environmental issues.

The film is available on DVD. For more information, visit PeacefulBluePlanet.org. Readers can also search for the film's Behind the Scenes page on Facebook.



Hollie Carter and a volunteer film crew worked on location to create a film about ecotourism in Colorado. The film was released by the non-profit group Peaceful Blue Planet.



HOMECOMING 2011



Homecoming weekend will soon be upon us and the NSU Alumni Association invites friends to join in the festivities. Homecoming weekend is a time to meet with friends and classmates, reminisce about memorable experiences and share stories from the good old days. Whether attending a departmental reunion, supporting the Demons at the downtown pep rally or joining friends for tailgating festivities, we hope to see you in Natchitoches Oct. 13-15.

October 13-15

Alumni Art Show - Hanchey Gallery

Thursday, October 13

7 p.m. – SAB Concert: Quest Crew opening for Ying Yang Twins - A.A. Frederick's Auditorium

Friday, October 14

10 a.m. – Alumni Association Board Meeting - Red River Waterway Commission Building

Noon – Homecoming Golf Tournament - NSU Recreation Complex

1:30 p.m. – NSU Foundation Board Meeting - Red River Waterway Commission Building

5 p.m. – Homecoming Parade will start at Prather Coliseum and end at the Natchitoches downtown riverbank.

5:30 p.m. – Pep Rally - Riverbank

6 – 7 p.m. – Long Purple Line Reception - Hanchey Gallery

7 p.m. – Homecoming Banquet/Long Purple Line Induction - Student Union Ballroom

8 p.m. – SAB Lip Sync @ A.A. Frederick's Auditorium

Saturday, October 15

8 a.m. – Homecoming 5K Fun Run/Walk - WRAC

9 a.m. – N Club Hall of Fame Induction - Magale Recital Hall

10 a.m. – College of Education and Human Development Reunion - TEC

11 a.m. – School of Business Reception - Russell Hall, Natchitoches Room

Noon – Demon Regiment ROTC Open House - James A. Noe Military Science Building

1 p.m. – Tailgating Activities - Collins Pavilion
(Free food and musical entertainment - bring the whole family!)

5:30 p.m. – Pregame Activities - Turpin Stadium
(Honorees will be recognized.)

6 p.m. – NSU vs. Southeastern - Turpin Stadium

7:30 p.m. – Halftime Ceremonies - Turpin Stadium
(Honorees will be recognized.)

8 - 11 p.m. – Boogie on the Bricks - Front Street, downtown Natchitoches

* Times and location of events is subject to change.
Please verify events through sponsoring departments or by calling the Alumni Center at (318) 357-4414 or visiting northwesternalumni.com



SON Centennial continues with Fall reunion

The Spirit of Northwestern Demon Marching Band will continue to celebrate the band's centennial with a fall reunion Friday, Sept. 30-Saturday, Oct. 1.

Friday's events include a recital by alumnus Josh Arvizu, principal oboist with the U.S. Navy Band in Washington, D.C. A reception for all band alumni follows in Hanchey Gallery.

Those arriving too late for the recital are encouraged to attend the reception.

Saturday's events include a tailgate party prior to the NSU-McNeese football game and recognition of alumni band members during half-time.

For more information, contact Jeff Mathews, associate director of bands, at (318) 357-4450 or e-mail mathewsj@nsula.edu.



Hernandez seeking partnerships, opportunities for School of Business



Antonio "Tony" Hernandez is chief development officer for the Northwestern State University School of Business. The privately-funded position was created to identify stakeholders for the School of Business, promote partnerships between the school and the business community and to develop programs that mutually benefit the students, alumni and economic development initiatives.

Hernandez is a 1982 graduate of Northwestern, where he earned a degree in social sciences and was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity. As a student, he worked on campus in the recruiting and alumni offices before embarking on a career in customer service and corporate sales for private companies. He returned to Northwestern as assistant director of development in 2009. He began his duties as chief development officer for the School of Business last month.

"My job is not only bringing in funds but also bringing in corporate partners and business partners to help with recruiting, job placement and internships," he said. He hopes his efforts help create networking opportunities for students and businesses.

Hernandez plans to organize social events for School of Business graduates throughout Louisiana to encourage stewardship and involvement in programs available to alumni and supporters. He hopes to originate a School of Business women's group, resurrect a business law group and would like to develop a Professional Advisors Association that would include

attorneys, accountants and financial advisors. The association not only supports scholarship initiatives but also present forums for the public to address financial planning, tax issues and other topics of interest. He is working to establish an endowed professorship and would like to coordinate partnerships between the School of Business, the Natchitoches Area Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Development Center.

"We are excited to welcome Tony to this new position. Tony is an energetic and dedicated individual and should prove to be a great asset to and integral part of the School of Business," said Dr. Nat Briscoe, professor and director of the School of Business.

"The faculty in the School of Business are strong leaders in fundraising efforts, in providing contacts and traveling with me to meet prospective corporate partners," Hernandez said.

NSU alumnus David Morgan (1975) funded the position with the intention that it will eventually be self-sufficient and hopes to create interest in other individuals to initiate similar positions for other academic disciplines.

"In these tough economic times, everyone has cut back and NSU needs all the support it can get," Morgan said.

Hernandez is currently organizing a School of Business Annual Campaign with four levels of stakeholder giving opportunities. His goal is to raise \$500,000 by June 30, 2012. Funds will be used for scholarship, student recruitment, faculty research, job fairs and alumni initiatives.

For more information or to explore opportunities through the NSU School of Business, contact Hernandez at (318) 357-4243 or e-mail hernandez@nsula.edu.

Scholars' inaugural class will celebrate 20th anniversary

Graduates of the Louisiana Scholars' College are invited to the 20-year reunion of the inaugural class, on Oct. 7-9. The event includes a Friday evening dinner, a Saturday afternoon picnic on the lawn near Russell Hall and an evening function on Saturday.

Established in 1987 as the state's only designated honors college for liberal arts, Scholars' offer students the opportunity to pursue their academic and personal goals in a supportive atmosphere. The core curriculum combines great books-based courses with courses in mathematics and sciences to provide students with a strong foundation for their more focused study in one of our concentrations or in a traditional major.

For more information on the reunion or to be included on a mailing list, contact Associate Director of Alumni Affairs Haley Blount at (318) 357-4415 or blounth@nsula.edu or Andrea Elmore at andreaelmore@gmail.com.

Giddens named Louisiana Teacher of the Year

Northwestern State University alumna April Jessup Giddens, a sixth grade English/language arts teacher at Natchitoches Magnet School, was recognized as Louisiana's 2012 Teacher of the Year during the fifth annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Symposium and Celebration. Giddens earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education at Northwestern in 1996 and a master's degree in 1998. During her 15-year teaching career, she taught at NSU Middle Lab School and for the last four years has been at Natchitoches Magnet.

"I feel so blessed to be chosen. It's very humbling and I'm very excited," Giddens said. "This casts a positive light on Natchitoches and on Northwestern."

"Teachers like Ms. Giddens are the backbone of our educational system," said Acting State Superintendent of Education Ollie Tyler. "She and others are shaping the lives and future of our children, and we enjoy thanking them in this very special way."

Giddens was selected from 24 regional finalists for Louisiana Teacher of the Year. She submitted a portfolio May 27 and went through an interview process prior to the symposium, which concluded with a banquet and the awards ceremony. Also announced during the event were the 2011 Superintendent of the Year, and the 2012 Teachers and Principals of the Year for elementary, middle and high school. Giddens' principal Julee Wright (1983), a finalist for Principal of the Year, and Natchitoches Parish Superintendent of Schools Dr. Derwood Duke (1974) were present when the award was presented.

Included among the many prizes Giddens receives are use of a Mercedes-Benz for one year, a SMART Board™ with projector and software from SMART Technologies and \$5,000 from Dream Teachers, a non-profit organization that recognizes Louisiana educators and educational leaders.

The SMART technology and software "will be a key component in my classroom this fall," Giddens said. "There are parents whose children I will have as students this year who have let me know how excited they are."

A graduate of Florien High School in 1992, Giddens is married to Mike Giddens, a 1994 Northwestern graduate, and has three children, Hannah, Timothy and Emma. She credited the exceptional teachers she had at Florien, as well as her faculty mentors at Northwestern, for her success.



"There are teachers I had at Florien and at Northwestern who were strong role models for me," she said. "I feel like I need to thank all those teachers for preparing me."

"These distinguished educators and educational leaders are a fine representation of the high-quality teachers and principals we are fortunate to have in Louisiana," said Penny Dastugue, president of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. "We should all thank them and recognize them for their hard work to improve the lives and futures of Louisiana's children."

In April 2012, Giddens represents Louisiana at the National Teacher of the Year event in Washington, D.C., where she and other top teachers from around the country will be introduced to President Barak Obama.

"I wish every teacher could get this award," Giddens said. "There are so many deserving teachers out there."

Trecey Rew

A champ on and off the field

Trecey Rew's collegiate resume is long, and strong.

Her NSU track and field career concluded this summer with a spectacular trifecta: winning a national championship, earning Academic All-America honors, and being named the national field events scholar-athlete of the year.

The icing on the cake came in early August, when the Garland, Texas, native was named the NCAA Division I Field Events Women's Scholar-Athlete of the Year by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

Rew won the NCAA discus title with a school-record of 192-4 throw on June 8. She also earned second-team All-America honors in the shot put by finishing 15th at the 2011 NCAA Championships in Des Moines, Iowa.

After graduating in May 2010 with a 3.86 grade point average in broadcast journalism, Rew posted a perfect 4.0 in her first year pursuing a master's degree in sport administration.

Later in June, Rew was voted to the Capital One Academic All-America Track and Cross Country Team as a second-team Academic All-America selection. She was listed on one of three 15-woman teams chosen by a College Sports Information Directors of America panel.

Rew earned the 13th Academic All-America Award by an NSU student-athlete since 1986. It is the first won by an NSU track and field competitor in what is traditionally one of the toughest Academic All-America teams to make. A third of the 45 women honored have perfect 4.0 GPAs, including seven on the first team.

Voting for Academic All-America is done by a national CoSIDA committee, which considers first-team All-District winners from eight regions around the nation.

Rew is the first Lady Demon to capture a national title. She gave the Northwestern track and field program its third NCAA crown and first since 1990, when

Brian Brown won the NCAA Indoor championship with a 7-8 leap in the high jump. Brown also won the 1989 USA Outdoor title by clearing 7-7.

The first NCAA track and field championship captured by NSU came in 1981, when the foursome of Victor Oatis, Joe Delaney, Mario Johnson and Mark Duper won it all in the 4x100 meter relay. NSU remains the only FCS-level Division I school to win an NCAA relay title, indoors or outdoors.

Rew swept the Southland Conference Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field Student-Athlete of the Year honors. She finished her career with eight individual Southland titles, winning the conference Field Event Athlete of the Year award in the final three SLC championships she entered.

The Louisiana Sports Writers Association named her the 2011 state Female Field Events Athlete of the Year on the All-Louisiana Team.

She is a three-time All-America recipient in the sport by virtue her finishes in the shot put and discus at the last two NCAA Outdoor Championships. She was ninth in the 2010 NCAA meet in the shot put.

The school and Southland Conference record holder in both events, she has personal bests of 192-4 in the discus and 57-0 1/4 in the shot. Competing against some of the world's best in late June at the USA Track and Field Championships, Rew finished seventh in the discus and 15th in the shot put.

Rew will remain in graduate school at NSU and will train for international competition heading into the 2012 Olympic year. She ultimately plans to go into coaching.



Trecey Rew met with another NSU alumnus who won an NCAA track championship, Dr. Brian Brown, who is now meet director of the Drake Relays in Des Moines, Ia., and was a co-administrator of the NCAA Championships. Photo by Bryan Wayne, NCAA.

NCAA champ
Trecey Rew

SPOTLIGHTS

Michelle Hendrix-Nora, professional educator at Beloit Memorial High School in Beloit, Wis., earned a Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Teacher Fellows Award. Hendrix-Nora is a special education teacher, specializing in math and work skills areas of instruction. She received her bachelor's degree at Hampton University in Virginia (2002), Master of Arts in Advertising Design from the Academy of Art University in California (2004), and her Master of Arts in Special Education from Northwestern State University (2008).

Hendrix-Nora developed the Knightingales group for students to use cheer, dance and other spirit-related performances to enhance and promote the spirit of the high school community. In addition to the work put into routines and event-planning, students in the group are encouraged to embody Purple Knight ideals by volunteering to give back to their community, promote respect among the student body and strive to achieve their potential in education and life.

An active participant in both school and community, she is actively involved in the Merrill Community Center, Boys & Girls Club, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and in her church as president of the publicity and education committees, member of the Youth Advisory Board, Vacation Bible School teacher and Free Hot Lunch Program volunteer.

Pottery by Wayne Horton (1970) was featured in June at the Schepis Museum in Columbia, La. Horton received a bachelor's degree in advertising design at NSU and a master's in ceramics at University of Louisiana at Monroe. He retired after 33 years as an art teacher at Bastrop High School and is now on faculty at ULM.

The late **Al Dennis Jr.** (1968) was inducted into the Grambling Legends Sports Hall of Fame in July. Dennis, a New Orleans native and World War II veteran, was one of Grambling's most celebrated early football captains. Playing from 1946-49, he was a two-time All-America blocker for future College Hall of Famer Paul "Tank" Younger. In 1968, he became the first African-American to receive a master's degree in health and physical education from NSU. He coached and taught for more than 45 years, notably at Brown High in Springhill.

Army Col. James F. Bowie (1980) was honored with a retirement ceremony in July recognizing 31 years of service. The event was held at Stafford House at Camp Beauregard. Before his retirement, he completed a three-year active duty assignment with the Louisiana National Guard as the state inspector general. Bowie commissioned into the transportation corps in 1980. He held many positions, including times as the commander of the 765th Transportation Battalion in Fort Eustis, Va., and served a combined total of eight years in Korea.

Bowie's awards and decorations include the federal and Louisiana Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, numerous Meritorious Service Medals and Army Commendation Medals, the Army Superior Unit Award and the Army Staff Identification Badge. Bowie was named the senior Army instructor for the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps at McKinley High School in East Baton Rouge for the 2011-12 school year. After graduation from NSU, Bowie earned master's degrees from Webster University and the U.S. Army War College.



Susan Urankar McCormick (1972) and **Eliot Knowles** (1966, 1972) were friends while married to others for more than 40 years. Both of their spouses passed away and the two reconnected two years ago. Susan is a surgical nurse and runs a dog training center in Haughton. Eliot has been the director of Rutherford House in Shreveport for 36 years. The two married in Oaks Bluff on Martha's Vineyard when they arranged to have the ceremony on the island as part of a three-week cruise. "Love can happen at any age," Eliot writes.

Carl Maddox was among the outstanding athletes, coaches and administrators to be inducted into the LSU Athletic Hall of Fame this year. The long-time athletic director was inducted posthumously. A 1932 graduate of Louisiana Normal College, he died in 1996 at the age of 83.

Maddox served as athletic director at LSU from 1968-78 during which time he was responsible for unprecedented growth in LSU's athletics facilities and the dawn of the age of women's varsity sports on campus. Maddox served in various capacities at LSU for a quarter of a



Martha Koury of Leesville was recognized as an honorary alumna of Northwestern State University. Mrs. Koury and her husband Gene Koury annually host the Leesville Recruiting Reception and support NSU through the Alumni Annual Fund and the Athletic Annual Fund. Gene Koury is a 1963 graduate of Northwestern. The couple's son, Matt Koury, is a 1995 graduate of NSU and their daughter-in-law, Martha Hooper Koury, a 2003 graduate, is the coordinator of student services at NSU's Leesville campus. NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb presented the honor to Mrs. Koury during a luncheon in Natchitoches.

More than 30 alumni and initiates of Kappa Alpha order from the 1960s to the 1970s gathered at the Natchitoches Shrine Club last spring to renew old acquaintances, make new ones and honor brother KAs who have passed away. Planned by Martial Broussard (1969) and Jim Pierson (1972) the group dined on catfish provided by Wayne Branton

(1970). Members traveled from as far away as Atlanta to attend the gathering. The group plans to meet again in 2013, the 50th anniversary of the founding of KA at NSU. On the front row from left are Martial Broussard, David Centanni, Rick Githens, John Garcia, Gary Pittman, Jim Stevens, Tom Morales, Rick Oeder, Jimmie Brossette and Mike Tingle. On the back row are Mike Maloney, Tom Lawhon, Larry Lieux, Bubba Atkins, Denman Shaffer, Dick Robertson, Sam Cooksey, Thom Williams, Steve Shine, Duan Ferrera, Dean Caldwell, Ralph DeKemper, Glen Sapp, Malcolm Morris, Wayne Branton, Dickie McElhatten, Louis Ledet, David Poe, Warren Ward and Jim Pierson. Not shown are Mike Restovich, Tom Whitehead and John Coleman.



century, including six years as assistant football coach from 1954-59 and eight years as director of the LSU Union from 1960-68 before becoming athletic director. The LSU Field House was named in his honor.

Maddox also served as athletic director at Mississippi State from 1979-83 and in 1986 he received the James J. Corbett Memorial Award presented by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics for lifetime achievement in athletic administration. He is a member of the Louisiana and Mississippi Sports Halls of Fame, the LSU Tiger Hall of Distinction, the Northwestern State University Athletic Hall of Fame and the LSU Alumni Hall of Distinction.

 **Dan McDonald** (1975), alumnus and former sports information director from 1975-80, was enshrined in the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Hall of Fame last June, the highest award presented by the organization. As a student at Northwestern, he was the student assistant SID under Pesky Hill, spent two years on the campus newspaper - one as editor - and was part of the group that founded the school's first radio station, KNSU, in 1974. He also was a stringer for Rolling Stone magazine when musician Jim Croce perished in a plane crash in Natchitoches after a concert at NSU. He earned his degree in three years.

After one year as a sportswriter at the *Alexandria Town Talk*, North-

western hired the 22-year-old to be the SID of what was about to become a Division I athletics department. After four years, he went to then-Southwestern Louisiana (now Louisiana-Lafayette), where he spent the next 19 years.

He retired from USL to become senior sports writer at the *Lafayette Daily Advertiser* and over the next nine years has won 34 writing awards from the Louisiana Sports Writers Association, including three 'Writer of the Year' awards in a five-year span.

Today he serves as vice president of McD Media, Inc., a marketing and public relations firm in Lafayette founded by his wife, Mary Beth (1981). McDonald has a daughter, Kristi, son-in-law Mike and three grandchildren.

Making an Impact

Call to Action scholarship recipients raise awareness of animal welfare

One can never underestimate the impact that one or two individuals can have for the greater good and a unique scholarship initiated by an Northwestern State University alumna offers recipients valuable experience in affecting positive change. The Call to Action Animal Welfare Scholarship is a project-driven award focused on raising awareness and facilitating community action to improve animal welfare through student initiatives. Jennifer Walsh, a 1991 graduate of the Louisiana Scholars' College, initiated the scholarship to address animal welfare issues in Natchitoches and give students an opportunity to develop leadership and community engagement skills.

"The ideal student recipient is one from any academic discipline who wants the opportunity to complete a project that is both challenging and rewarding in the lives they affect, both for animals and humans," Walsh said. "Recipients should not only be passionate about helping animals, but also be looking for real-world experience. I want them to realize that you don't have to have a million dollars or be a public official to make a difference."



Scholarship criteria seek students who are motivated, task-oriented and accomplishment driven. Each must submit a proposal and participate in an interview process before selection.

"My goal was to make our animal shelter a more welcoming place and increase adoptions," said Shelby McCain of Natchitoches, the 2010-11 recipient. McCain coordinated the creation of a designated area at the entrance of the Natchitoches Animal Shelter in which potential pet owners can become better acquainted with the animals in a friendlier environment.

"Through this process, I have grown to learn better communication skills because I have had to schedule appointments with several different people and groups in order to get this project started," McCain said. "I am a psychology major, so this project doesn't relate to my career field, but I've had a special love for animals for as long as I can remember and with this project I am finally able to help make a difference in animals' lives."

As a result of this year's interviews, Walsh decided to award two Call to Action scholarships. Emily McGee of Florien and Michelle Alford of Deville are recipients for the 2011-12 academic year.

"I was impressed with their commitment," Walsh said. "They are both grounded and focused with realistic goals and are clearly committed to the projects."

McGee, whose interest is equine welfare, is developing a campaign called Good Horse Sense. McGee competes in rodeo events and was already doing demonstrations on equine health when she heard about the Call to Action Animal Welfare Scholarship.

"The Animal Welfare Scholarship has allowed me to expand what I'm doing to more schools in Natchi-



toches and Sabine parishes," she said. "The kids love it. I always bring one of my rodeo horses and I try to bring an abused horse and encourage adoption for the abused horse." The abused horses come from those rescued by the Humane Society in Many, and McGee often has a hand in their rehabilitation.

McGee developed a website, GoodHorseSense.com, a Facebook page and an accompanying brochure with tips and resource information on recognizing and reporting abused or neglected horses.

McGee is enrolled as a biology major at NSU and plans to pursue pharmacy or animal pharmaceutical research as a career. The scholarship is important because her savings over the next three years will see her through pharmacy school. As part of the service project, she will present five equine health demonstrations per semester and document her progress in a report. She welcomes the opportunity to speak at fairs, rodeos, farm supply stores and other events.

"I generally talk to fourth grade students, but I hope to bring the message to high schools and 4-H programs," she said.

She intends to continue her program even after the scholarship expires and foresees continued efforts towards equine rescue and rehabilitation in her future.

Alford's plans are to develop a dog training program to benefit Hope

Burns scholarship will assist Anacoco students

After a long career as an educator, Billy John Burns intends to spend his remaining years as a mentor to students. Burns has demonstrated his strong commitment to assist deserving students from his hometown by establishing a scholarship at Northwestern. First preference for the Billy John and Judith Burns Scholarship will be given to an incoming freshman from Anacoco High School.

Burns, who lives in Bossier City, earned a B.A. in education at NSU in 1954, M.A. in 1958 and plus 30 in 1966. Born and reared in Anacoco, he taught at Anacoco High School for 31 years working at various times as a social studies teacher, librarian, assistant principal, principal, girls basketball coach and co-sponsor of the yearbook. He retired for one year and moved to Shreveport, where he taught for 14 years at Calvary

Baptist Academy and served as principal from 1990-2000. Events from his life and career are detailed in an autobiography, "One Last Stroll Down Memory Lane," completed in 2007.

Burns overcame tremendous physical challenges as a child and attended Northwestern on a rehabilitation scholarship.

"When I started at Northwestern, I didn't have a job or any money. I got a rehabilitation scholarship and graduated in three years," said Burns, who after 45 years as an educator continues to mentor and assist college students.

Burns said the ideal candidate for the NSU scholarship would be someone with a financial need and a strong interest in attending Northwestern. As this year's recipient, Sydney Sterling has demonstrated



Sydney Sterling, an honor student and recent graduate of Anacoco High School, is the first recipient of the Billy John and Judith Burns Scholarship established a for a student from Anacoco High School.

academic achievement, involvement in extracurricular activities and good character, he said.

"Ninety-five percent of my life is behind me and in my last few years I am interested in helping others because when I was at Northwestern so many people helped me," Burns said.

III

Making an Impact continued from page 10

for Paws, a Natchitoches non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation, fostering and adoption of animals. Working with animals in obedience training improves their chance for adoption, explained Alford, who is a sophomore majoring in biology/pre-veterinary medicine.

Alford's father is a dog trainer and she has years of experience training dogs to sit, heel, walk and obey other commands.

"It's important to be patient and steady with the animals," she said. Alford volunteers in caring for the Hope for Paws dogs and has participated in adoption days. She hopes to partner with the City of Natchitoches to offer dog training classes to pet owners. She was already considering volunteering to train the animals before she heard about the scholarship. The financial benefit is especially important now, as her father was diagnosed earlier this year with a life-threatening illness.

"I wanted to be a veterinarian since I was 8 and I'm happy to be getting closer to that reality," she said.

Walsh was in the first graduating class of the Louisiana Scholars' College where her concentration was humanities and social thought. She earned graduate degrees in public affairs from the University of Texas and

national security and strategic studies from the National War College. She is employed with the U.S. Secretary of Defense and is very involved with animal rescue in the Washington, D.C., area. A visit to Natchitoches in which she noticed a number of unhealthy, stray and feral animals raised her concern about animal welfare in the area.

"I wanted to do something for NSU and create an opportunity in which students realize they can make action happen, they can develop their ideas and their ideas can be validated," she explained.

Rather than be a one-time award, Walsh hopes the Call to Action scholarship will encourage students interested in animal welfare to take action and be held accountable for bringing their initiatives to fruition.

Scholarship proposals are not limited to pets or domestic animals; all projects that raise awareness of animal welfare are considered.

"The purpose is for students to have ownership of a project and see it through. This is a scholarship that will give them experience in working with other people and help them later in life," she said. "It's about them learning the value of hard work, patience, persistence and finding inner strength to keep going."

Bonnette Memorial Golf Tournament



**Buddy Bonnette
Memorial Day
Golf Scramble**

Members of the Bonnette family were present for the Bonnette Memorial Golf Tournament. On the front row from left are Ben Lambert, Vera Bonnette, Anna Vera Nickel and Emily Jo Lambert. On the back row are Danny Lambert, Paula Bonnette Nelson, Claire Nelson, Brian Allen Nelson, Lisa Bonnette Lambert, Brian Lambert, Randy Bonnette and Hunter Talley.



**Buddy Bonnette
Memorial Day**

Vera Bonnette, center, presented awards to first place winners in Flight One of the Bonnette Golf Tournament. From left are Zach Trichel, Drake Harrington, Bonnette, Jared Donahoe and Tyler Trichel.



**Buddy Bonnette
Memorial Day
Golf Scramble**

Vera Bonnette, center, presented awards to first place winners in Flight Two of the Bonnette Golf Tournament. From left are Chuck Levy, Catherine Levy, Bonnette, Joe Beasley and Chris Levy.

Chris Roper Golf Tournament



First place winners in the annual Chris Roper Golf Tournament, held April 30 at Northwestern Hills, were Richard Tew, Bill DeCour, Rickey McBride and DeWayne Mitchell.



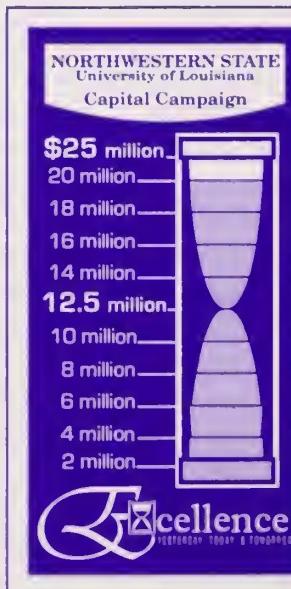
Second place winners were Charlie Ingals, Danny Nolen, Randy Robinson and Doyle Anderson.



Third place winners were Sam Fowler, Bryan Edens, Steven Wood and Francis Deloney.



Rick and Mary Roper, parents of the late Chris Roper, introduced Jackson McNeil, center, as the recipient of the 2011 Chris Roper Scholarship.



There is one year left in Northwestern State's current Capital Campaign, "Excellence: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." Gifts have come in the form of annual fund pledges, million dollar estate gifts and corporate matching funds. The Capital Campaign total currently sits at \$20 million and the university is striving to reach its goal of \$25 million by June 30, 2012. The Alumni Association would like to thank all of our faithful alumni that have supported the Capital Campaign. For more information on how to contribute to the Capital Campaign, contact the Office of University Advancement at (318) 357-4414.

Briggs' 90th birthday swim raises funds for Cenla nursing, rad tech students



Northwestern nursing students congratulated Dr. Harry Briggs at the completion of a swim across Kincaid Lake to celebrate his 90th birthday. The occasion also served as a fundraiser for NSU's Cenla Center in Alexandria. The benefit took place at Tunk's Cypress Inn. On the front row from left are Ansley Thiels, Jeannie Joy, Katrina Myers, Lauren Williams, Kayla Hilger, Briggs, Brandi Martin, Michelle Watts with daughter Lily and Dana Zimmerman. On the back row are Racquel Ravare, Michelle Shimko, Megan Basco, Justin McDaniel, Tiffany Achord, Paula Teta, Kara Johnson, Lisha Edwards and Brooke Cox. The May 19 event was the third time Briggs has completed a swim on Kincaid Lake and the second time the occasion was designated as a scholarship fundraiser. Briggs, a political science instructor at NSU's Leesville campus, initiated several scholarship endowments to benefit current and future NSU students.

III

Alum surprises mom with honorary scholarship

Former Drum Major Bruston Manuel (2003) has created an endowed scholarship to honor his mother in thanks for her positive influence on his life. The Carolyn Smith Manuel Music Scholarship will be presented to an upperclassman music education major. First preference will be given to a male student who participates in the NSU choir and marching band.

"My mom loves music," Bruston Manuel said. "She was in her high school band, the McNeese State University band and she attended all my concerts. She's done a lot for me and I want to pay it forward. She was very good about letting me pave my own way."

Carolyn Manuel, a retired math and science teacher, lives in Kinder.

Bruston Manuel began his college career as a music education major and later changed to vocal music, performing with the concert and chamber choirs. After graduating in 2003, he moved to New York City, began auditioning for musical theatre roles and discovered an affinity for the business side of Broadway. While still auditioning, he worked for a private family-run office, which influenced him to start his own company, Paper

Boy Productions. He and a friend started the production company last year which has co-produced three Broadway productions thus far.

Among his fond memories of NSU, Manuel listed the family atmosphere and nurturing environments he experienced in the music department and the Spirit of Northwestern. As a performer, he also gained experience in predicting what an audience will positively respond to.

"My training at Northwestern gave me a vast amount of experiences which I use to help me pick musicals that have a subject matter that appeal to a broad range of people," he said. "I often think back to when I was in college and draw on what types of performances audiences responded most to."

Manuel, who also contributed to the band's uniform drive, surprised his mother with news of the scholarship on Mother's Day.

"This year has been particularly good for me," he said. "I felt like the next best gift I could give my mom, besides going home, was something that could give another individual the opportunity that I had. When she saw the certificate, she was very honored."

Alumni Updates

1969

J. Kirby is a partner in Burleson L.L.P., married and lives in Houston.

1973

Roslyn Anne Scroggs Beall is a retired Rapides Parish speech therapist and currently employed as a speech pathologist with the Aurora R-8 School System. She is married and lives in Cape Fair, Mo.

2001

Antoinette Pittman is employed by the Vernon Parish School Board as a first grade teacher at North Polk Elementary, married and lives in Fort Polk.

In Memory

- 1931 – Nevada Self Salter, May 23, 2011, Lake Charles
- 1933 – Joe P. Durham Sr., May 29, 2011, West Monroe
- 1935 – Dr. George T. Walker, June 19, 2011, Monroe
- 1938 – Pete Antie, December 27, 2007, Melville
- 1939 – Eunice Koonce Nowlin, June 15, 2011, Natchitoches
- 1939 – Marion C. Waguespack, July 11, 2011, Lockport
- 1946 – Shirley Babin Frost, May 16, 2011, LaPlace
- 1949 – Juanita Cordozier Kilpatrick, July 15, 2011, Natchitoches
- 1954 – Ben Brewton, April 14, 2011, Houston, Texas
- 1954, 1961 – Kenneth Shaw, July 26, 2011, Natchitoches
- 1957 – Daniel Chase, June 1, 2011, Baton Rouge
- 1960 – Wanda Gunn, May 5, 2011, Shreveport
- 1962 – Dr. Dencil R. Taylor, Aug. 6, 2011, Wichita Falls, Texas
- 1965 – Doris Hanna Pitts, May 27, 2011, Shreveport
- 1977 – Dr. Gregory Ellis Garland, April 9, 2011, Palm Bay, Fla.
- 1990 – Rangi Jason Lim, May 16, 2011, Louisville, Ky.

For more Alumni Updates
please visit our website:
www.northwesternalumni.com

Scholarship will benefit first generation students

A Northwestern State University alumna and World War II veteran is helping first generation college students through an endowed scholarship that was supplemented with state matching funds. The Ida Emily Simpson First Generation Endowed Scholarship will be created through the Louisiana Board of Regents Support fund that matches \$60,000 with \$40,000 to create an endowed scholarship in the amount of \$100,000.

"Ms. Simpson inquired about state matching funds for scholarships and we informed her about an opportunity to endow a scholarship for first generation college students," said Drake Owens, director of University Advancement and executive director of the NSU Foundation.

Simpson's early life was difficult and earning her education was a struggle. Born in 1922, Simpson was orphaned as a child and cared for by neighbors and relatives. She graduated as valedictorian of her class at Monterey High School and planned to attend nursing school, but the lady with whom she was living encouraged her to attend college at Louisiana Normal, as Northwestern was then known. She enrolled on a work scholarship and had wanted to pursue journalism, but her caregiver discouraged the idea. Instead, Simpson earned a degree in health and physical education.

Following graduation, she enlisted in the Army in 1943. During a 20-year Army career, she was stationed in England, France, Germany and the U.S. After the war, stationed both stateside and abroad, she worked for military newspapers and in public information offices, doing public relations work and news-writing, including serving as head of the public information office at Fort Monroe, Va. She retired in July 1964 as Sgt. First Class E-7. After her dis-



Ida Simpson presented a donation to the NSU Foundation to initiate a scholarship for first generation college students. The donation was presented to Director of University Advancement Drake Owens.

charge, she lived in New Orleans for 20 years, where she became an avid golfer, before moving to Florida to be near friends and relatives. She now resides in Washington, D.C.

"Ms. Simpson was delighted with the prospect of creating this scholarship for first generation students and knowing that her contribution was enhanced so much by the match," Owens said. "She has a great love for this school."

Simpson previously supported Northwestern through contributions towards a scholarship for a female student earning a degree in journalism and was among the donors who contributed at the highest level to the NSU's first professorship in military science, the Demon Regiment Endowed Professorship, in acknowledgement of her career of service in the U.S. Army. For this contribution, she was presented with the Regimental Saber Award. Simpson's scholarship in journalism will be awarded to a student pursuing a degree in communications with a concentration in mass communications.

Why I Love NSU

In September of 1961 my parents drove me from Smackover, Ark., to Natchitoches with a suit case, a box of bed linens, a portable typewriter and a clock radio. I was about to embark on a journey of which I had only dreamed. I was assigned to Agnes Morris Dormitory and it was about supper time that my family left me with my clothes unpacked, the bed made, many instructions and \$20 in my purse. Due to some rearrangements in the roommate selections I found that I did not have a roommate so I bravely joined a group of girls who were going to the cafeteria. It was at one end of the square formed by the four freshman girl's dorms. I thought the grounds were beautiful. The food was slightly less exciting than the line of cute boys serving trays. I had never felt such freedom and independence in my life!! I was in college!!

Very soon I made friends and found a roommate. The courses were exciting, and as a nursing major I was very taken with the nursing skills lab and the procedures that we learned. I have yet to this day to see anything like those outfits we wore for PE. I loved the football games and when the State Fair Game was played in Shreveport midst the huge chrysanthemums and purple ribbons I felt I had truly arrived in the big city life. The Christmas lights and parades on the banks of Cane River were a spectacle that has stayed with me all my life result-

ing in many adult trips on the first Saturday in December to show my family the lights.

I was very sad when the time came for nursing majors to move to Shreveport for clinicals. I considered changing my major in order to stay, but my parents refused to pay out of state fees for a major I could get in Arkansas. Many of my friends were moving to Shreveport as well so we made the adjustment to the very different life style leading to our BSN degree. I still remember some of the patients that I worked with and I know our faculty prepared us well. After a semester or two, Florence Nightingale had nothing on us!!

The trips back to campus to visit friends kept me connected to the wonderful world of Northwestern. The semesters passed quickly and in May of 1965 I graduated. I returned to Arkansas and went to work in Little Rock. I was married in 1969 and we raised two daughters. I was widowed in 1999. That BSN degree provided me with many opportunities over my forty year career. I worked in education most of my career retiring in 2005 as Director of Development and Student Affairs from University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, College of Nursing.

- *Benii Sue Johnson Ogden Fambrough (1965)*

Family establishes scholarship to honor 1932 alumna

A DeSoto Parish family is honoring their loved one by establishing an endowed scholarship in her name at NSU. The Mary Leigh Marshall Gallaspy Endowed Scholarship will be awarded to a junior or senior enrolled in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences at NSU. Preference will be given to a student first from DeSoto Parish and second from Sabine Parish.

The Mary Leigh Marshall Gallaspy Endowed Scholarship was established through a donation to the NSU Foundation from the Gallaspy family and the San Patricio Cattle Company, LLC, who contributed \$120,000 to the scholarship.

Mary Leigh Marshall Gallaspy was born Feb. 23, 1913, in a log house on Allendale Plantation near Stonewall to a family with deep roots in DeSoto Parish. She graduated from Stonewall High School in 1928, the youngest graduate ever from that school. In the fall of 1928, she arrived at Louisiana State Normal College, as NSU was then known, and graduated four years later with a degree in home economics. She was offered a scholarship for graduate study at LSU, but declined after receiving a job offer to teach home economics at Pelican High School. She arrived in Pelican by train from Stonewall to begin teaching in the fall of 1932.

She married Francis Norman Gallaspy Aug. 10, 1938, and moved to his family home in Pelican, where she still resides. She ended her teaching career in 1939 to become a full time homemaker. She and Norman

established the San Patricio Cattle Company (SPCCo) in 1974, which includes Mrs. Gallaspy's children and grandchildren, Gallaspy, Myers and Garlington family

members. After his death in 1988 she became president of SPCCo, diligently carrying out all the duties involved until five years ago when her health became more delicate. "She was a wonderful record keeper," according to her daughter, Kathleen Gallaspy Myers.

"Before she turned 90, Mother did her own household chores as well as managing SPCCo. I cannot imagine a person whose homemaking skills could be any more perfect than hers were," Myers said. "Just as some of her former students have commented through the years when sharing their memories of her appearance - 'she never had a hair out of place' -- she seemed never to have anything undone in her home. There was never a dirty dish left to be washed and dried after a meal. Even today, she is uncomfortable if shades are not pulled down at the same level at each window and curtain ties do not match."



Mary Leigh Marshall
Gallaspy

"Perhaps something could be said about changes she has seen in her life -- no running water, no gas or electricity or indoor plumbing compared to today's lifestyle. She has basically lived in only two houses throughout her 98 years -- the 1854 Allendale log house in Stonewall and the 1920s home in Pelican where she now resides."

"It is obvious from Mrs. Gallaspy's very successful life management skills that she was a wonderful student and role model with a 'can do' spirit," said Dr. Patricia Pierson, head of the Department of Family and Consumer Science, which is marking a centennial this year. "Although the name of our profession has changed through the years, its mission remains to improve the lives of individuals, families and communities and Mrs. Gallaspy has certainly done that her entire life. She will continue to touch and improve students' lives through she and her family's marvelous generosity."

"Our family has been blessed, especially in recent years, by the sacrifices my grandparents made to build up their property holdings," said Dr. Leigh Ann Myers, professor of mathematics at NSU and Mrs. Gallaspy's granddaughter. "We recognize the importance of NSU's commitment to educating the people of northwest Louisiana, which has continued throughout its history and served three generations of our family, beginning with my grandmother. We are pleased to help students and the department of Family and Consumer Sciences in her honor."

LOOKING BACK

The NSU Entertainers



The Entertainers were a campus vocal group that represented Northwestern at events in Louisiana and the surrounding area by performing music from the recording industry's biggest stars. Selection was by audition. The Entertainers from 1980-81 included Brent Thibodaux, Natalie Craig, Don Brewer, Scott Stuart, Leigh Wood, Vickie Corley, Randy Walker, Mark LaCour and Jimmy Davis. Under the direction of Dr. William Hunt, the Entertainers performed at the Louisiana State Fair, the Red River Revel, in conjunction with the Jerry Lewis Telethon for Muscular Dystrophy, the 54th Natchitoches Christmas Festival, the International Arabian Horse Association convention in Dallas, the 96th annual Homecoming, a television special on KALB-Alexandria and at many high schools in the south.

Guess Who?



Two Queens reigned over Homecoming Festivities at Northwestern in the fall of 1960. Can you name the Homecoming Queen, the Honorary Queen and their court?

The first five alumni to call the Alumni Center at (318) 357-4414 with the correct answers will win a prize.

Pictured in the Summer 2011 edition of Guess Who: Barbara Jean Uhrbach, Judy Bob Roberts, Linda Lattier, Charlotte Beebe and Vicky West.

"Guess Who" winners from Summer 2011:
 Steve Murphy (1964)
 Judy Easley (1963)
 Helen West Moses (1963)



Alumni Updates

Visit our website at
www.northwesternalumni.com
and click on "First Time Log-In"
or use this printed form.

Please fill this page out as completely as possible. We are constantly revising our records and your information updates are vital to making the system work. The information from this form is also used for entries in the "Alumni Updates" section. Please make a copy of this page and give it to any NSU graduate who may not be on our list. We can't keep in touch with you if we can't find you! Thank you.

Date _____

Name: (Miss, Mrs. Mr.) _____
Please Circle Last First Middle Maiden

Current address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

NSU undergraduate degree(s): _____ Year of graduation: _____

NSU graduate degree(s): _____ Year of graduation: _____

During which years did you attend NSU? _____

Which organizations were you involved in while a student at NSU?

Place of employment _____

Job title: _____ Work phone: _____

Spouse's name: _____

Is your spouse an NSU graduate? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, what degree(s) did he / she earn?

Spouse's undergraduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation _____

Spouse's graduate degree (s) _____ Year of graduation _____

Do you have children who are potential Northwestern students?

Please tell us their names, contact information, and what high school they attend.

Please return to: Alumni Center • Northwestern State University • Natchitoches, LA 71497

**If you would like information from Admissions, Financial Aid or
the NSU Athletic Association, you can contact them at the following address:**

University Recruiting
South Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-4503 or 800-327-1903
nsula.edu/enrollmentservices/recruiting

Financial Aid
Room 109, Roy Hall
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-5961
nsula.edu/financialaid

Athletic Director
Room 101C, Athletic Fieldhouse
Natchitoches, LA 71497
(318) 357-5251
NSUDemons.com



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50 Year Graduates from the Class of 1961

1st Row: Juanita Miller Brumley, Helen Armadine Miller Wright, Gail Rucker Schwarzbach, Beth Savill Hill, Ellen Stella Holmes Craig, Marty Cooley Driggers, Ursula Wahl Williams, Barbara Beebe Wolf, Jerre Prestridge Perry, Ann Wilson Oberle & Mary Eloise Caraway Walden. **2nd Row:** Marie Michel Masson, Linda Fedd Culpepper, Marietta Hammock Booth, Gerry Haworth Sexton, Edith Mothershed Hawkins, Michaelene Beckman Flasch, Patricia Pittman Cantrell, Jo Ann R. Gregg, Judith Wright Ibsen, Nell Gatlin Bankston & Mary Eleanor Harper Bonnette. **3rd Row:** Michelle Drane Smith, Jill Kelley Riel, Martha Louise Fletcher Hoolahan, Mary Sebren Jordan, Diana Jordan Hart, Sarah Oliver Todd, Rita Raye Findley Bozeman, Frances Jackson Freeman, Blanche Helen Miller Harrison, Sandra McCalla, Louvenia McGee Carter & Peggy Joe Robinson Pike. **4th Row:** Wayne Louis Williamson, Ralph E. McNabb, Jr., Lovick H. Johnson, III, James Douglas Harris, John M. Millar, Frank L. Peske, Rastus O'Neil Massey, Robert Earl Turner, David Franklin Eason, Mack Daniel Knotts, Harry L. Goodfellow, Jerry H. Norwood, John I. Morrow, William Paul Spillers, Cecil Franklin Easley, Jr., Carolyn Roberts Davenport & B.J. Lewis.